Application No. 10/549,772 Reply to Office Action of July 20, 2007

Amendment to and Listing of the Claims:

Please cancel claims 14-23, add new claims 24-29 and amend claims 1, 3, 6 and 12-13, wherein strikethrough and double brackets indicates a deletion and underline indicates an addition, as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A panel for a fence having at least one hollow rail and a plurality of pickets supported by the rail, wherein [[the]] each pickets enter the rail by passage through respective entry passes through two apertures in the rail, and a portion of each picket located inside of the rail between the apertures is deformed while within the rail to thereby prevent further passage of the pickets through their respective entry apertures.

(Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A panel for a fence according to claim 1, wherein the portion of each picket that has been deformed within the rail has a partly flattened shape that no longer matches the shape of the respective [[entry]] apertures in the rail.

4-5. (Cancelled)

- 6. (Currently Amended) A panel for a fence according to claim 1 wherein [[the]] <u>each</u> picket[[s]] pass<u>es</u> though only one side of the rail and ends at an internal wall within the rail, <u>an</u> end portion[[s]] of the picket[[s]] being held in <u>respective a wall</u> aperture[[s]] of the internal wall.
- 7. (Previously Presented) A panel for a fence having at least one hollow rail and a plurality of pickets supported by the rail, wherein the rail has an external wall with entry apertures for the pickets, and an internal wall for holding end portions of the pickets, and wherein each picket

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enters the rail through a respective entry aperture and has an end portion which is held by a corresponding holding aperture in the internal wall.

8. (Cancelled)

 (Previously Presented) A panel according to claim 7, wherein the holding apertures are aligned with the entry apertures so that the pickets are perpendicular to the rail.

10. (Previously Presented) A panel according to claim 7, wherein the holding apertures are offset from the entry apertures so that the pickets are not perpendicular to the rail.

11. (Previously Presented) A panel according to claim 7, wherein the internal wall is moveable within the rail to vary the alignment of the holding apertures and the entry apertures.

(Currently Amended) A panel according to claim [[4]] Z, wherein the holding apertures
are formed by a plurality of flanges which receive end portions of respective pickets.

13. (Currently Amended) A panel according to claim [[4]] 7, wherein the pickets are fastened to the rail by a deformed portion of each picket within the rail.

14-23 (Cancelled).

- 24. (New) A panel according to claim 1, wherein each picket passes through opposite sides of the rail and has an end portion outside of the rail.
- 25. (New) A panel according to claim 1 further comprising a pair of rails which support the pickets.

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- 26. (New) A panel for a fence having at least one hollow rail and a plurality of pickets supported by the rail, wherein the pickets enter the rail by passage through respective entry apertures in the rail, and a portion of each picket located inside of the rail is transversely flattened while within the rail to thereby prevent further passage of the pickets through the respective entry apertures.
- 27. (New) A panel according to claim 26, wherein the portion of each picket located inside offthe rail is narrowed in one direction and extended in another direction, both directions being perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the picket.
- 28. (New) A panel according to claim 26, wherein each picket passes through only one side of the rail and ends within the rail.
- 29. (New) A panel according to claim 26, wherein each picket passes entirely opposite sides of the rail and ends outside the rail.